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III N^o. 18. III

SPLENDID MISERY.

By Sam Sorenson

U. S. Engraving Works, 24 Vesey St.

M. A. J. 1879



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Splendid Misery.

A FARCE, IN ONE ACT.

Introducing Singing, Dancing, and Funny Business. Time of representation : Forty-five minutes.

BY SAUL SERTREW,

CHARACTERS.

MABEL STEBBINS.

LAURA DE MAR.

CAPTAIN DE WALDEN.

ROBERT GORDON.

[Costumes of the present day.]

SCENE.—*A drawing room nicely furnished. Large door C., leading to a conservatory. French windows with red curtains to the floor R. and L. 2d E. lounge, R. chairs, &c. Enter MABEL and LAURA C. D. MABEL in tears and handkerchief to her eyes; both come forward.*

LAURA—Why, Mabel; what has made you so unhappy?

MABEL—Oh, Laura! I am most miserable and wretched! I have received a note this morning informing me of the arrival of Captain De Walden, a gentleman whom my father has selected to be my husband, and I have never seen him in my life, and my father says I must marry with him, whether I love him or not, and when once my father has formed a resolution nothing can change his mind, and he has gone to meet this Captain, and will return with him to-morrow.

LAURA—Why, this is dreadful, Mabel; to be obliged to marry with a person whom you have never seen and don't know whether you could love him or not.

MABEL—The Captain's father is an old friend of my father, and it appears they formed the plan when the Captain and myself were children. Still, I would not feel so bad about it if I had seen the Captain and knew more of him. I don't

know what he's like, or anything about him, only what my father has told me, and I think it is no more than right that I should have the chance of seeing him and know more of him before such plans were consummated.

LAURA—Yes, Mabel, you should have seen the gentleman by all means, and know more of him, before entertaining him with a view to marriage ; you don't know whether he's good looking or homely, whether he's cross-eyed or hump-backed, etcetera, etcetera. You fancy that he is some horrible creature that you could never love or be happy with, because you have never seen this gentleman that your father says you must marry at all hazards.

MABEL—Yes. Oh, if I could only manage some way to see him without his knowing who I am ; I would give all I possess in this world !

LAURA—You say your father has gone on to meet him ?

MABEL—Yes ; but this note informs me that the Captain has arrived a day before he expected, and he will be here this afternoon. There's nobody home but me and the servants, and I feel so embarrassed I am afraid I will not be able to receive him with that courtesy due to his wealth and station, and if my father should know that I slighted him he would be very angry and unhappy.

LAURA (anxious)—I have it ! I've got a plan that will accomplish all you desire. The Captain has arrived a day sooner than was expected. Your father has gone on to meet him and won't return till to-morrow. That will keep your father away for a day certain ; and you expect the Captain this afternoon. Now we may yet have time to arrange the plan, which will surely meet with success, and give you a splendid opportunity of seeing this gentleman without his knowledge—if you are willing to enter in the plot.

MABEL—I will do anything you say that will afford me the opportunity to see this gentleman without his knowledge.

LAURA—Well, I propose to change places with you, and

receive this gentleman when he calls. I will personate you and entertain him with all the honor due his station ; and he won't be any the wiser as to who I am.

MABEL—And how shall I be able to see him without being discovered ?

LAURA—You shall be my waiting-maid, and I will arrange it so that you can see him and hear him talk to me and make love. You can feast your eyes on him to your heart's content, and he won't be any the wiser as to who you are. We'll have lots of fun, and when we disclose our little ruse he will enjoy the joke immensely.

MABEL (delighted)—Splendid ! Oh, Laura, you are a genius worthy of the highest honors !

LAURA—Come ; not a moment is to be lost. We will arrange our plans at once, and you shall be made happy.

[Exit D. R., as

Enter CAPTAIN DE WALDEN and ROBERT GORDON.

CAPTAIN—I understand that the young lady's father has gone on to meet me, he expecting that I should arrive to-morrow instead of to-day. I have never seen this young lady, and my father insists on my marrying with her at all sacrifice. As I don't believe in buying a pig in a bag, I have adopted this plan to have an interview and a chance to see her and judge for myself as to whether she be a suitable lady for me to make my wife. So, Robert, if you manage your part of this little ruse as I have directed, I think we shall meet with success. I will personate your valet to the best of my ability, and you will arrange it so that I can have an opportunity of seeing this lady as often as possible without her being aware that I am Captain De Walden ; and I shall always remember your kindness in assisting me to accomplish my purpose.

ROBERT—Captain, I will do my best to keep up the ruse and give you every possible opportunity of seeing her.

CAPTAIN (looking off R.)—Ah ! some one is coming. Let us be ready for the conflict. (Throws off his cloak and ap-

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pears in the disguise of a valet ; goes to the window and looks out) as

Enter MABEL in disguise of a lady's maid.

MABEL (addressing Robert)—My lady is waiting to receive you. (Bows him to the door R., and comes forward.) Oh, I don't like his appearance a bit—he is not my style of a man at all. (Discovers the valet.) His valet is a much better-looking man and of a more noble bearing. I will question him as to the Captain. (Goes to him.) Ahem ! You are Captain De Walden's valet, I believe.

CAPTAIN (turns around and bows. Aside—Now I'm in for it ; she will bore me with all kinds of questions. Well, I will be as agreeable and jolly as possible. Bows politely)—Ah, I beg pardon ; yes, miss, I am Captain de Walden's valet, and my name is Robert.

MABEL—I am my lady's maid, and my name is Laura.

CAPTAIN (bowing)—I am very happy to make your acquaintance. (Both come forward.)

MABEL—You have had a long journey : I hope it was a pleasant one.

CAPTAIN—Yes, my dear lady. (Hesitates, aside—Confound it, I musn't address her as dear lady, she's only a waiting maid.) Yes, miss, we had a long journey, and arrived here a day sooner than we expected. Our passage was a very pleasant one ; I had lots of fun singing, dancing, and such jolly company, it made the time pass very pleasant.

MABEL—Oh, I delight in good jolly company when one is traveling. Oh, it is so pleasant to meet with friends who are agreeable and can make themselves enjoyable ! I dislike formality and reserved customs. I like to see people enjoy the pleasures of this life.

CAPTAIN—Yes, that's my idea exactly ! I have seen so much of these reserved customs and formalities of society that I am glad to get away from such scenes and mingle with those that are more natural.

MABEL—I suppose the Captain is a proud and reserved

gentleman, who seldom mingles with those who are more free and easy in their habits and manners.

CAPTAIN—Well, he may have the appearance of being that kind of a gentleman ; but as you get more acquainted with him he is inclined to be very jolly, and enjoys a good joke and pleasant company as well as any one. You should hear him make an after-dinner speech ! (Makes gestures of a person making a speech, or delivers a short speech appropriate to the occasion.) And you should hear him sing.

MABEL—I should like to hear him sing. I enjoy a good song.

CAPTAIN—His favorite song was—(sings song appropriate).

MABEL (delighted and aside)—Why, he's a splendid singer ! What a pity he's a valet. I'm almost in love with him.)—A very pretty song, and you have an excellent voice for singing.

CAPTAIN—And you should hear him spout Shakespeare ! You recollect the balcony scene in “Romeo and Juliet ?” (Aside—Confound it, no ; of course she don't ; she's only a lady's waiting maid, how could she.)

MABEL—Yes, I remember the scene ; something after this style : (They give a sketch of the scene, or any recitation they feel disposed to offer suitable to the occasion.)

CAPTAIN—And you should see him dance ! Oh, when I think of the jolly fun we had dancing and singing on our journey, I fancy now I am whirling in the gay and festive dance to the sweet strains of the enchanting music. (Dances about.)

MABEL (delighted, aside)—Oh, he's a splendid fellow. If the Captain was like him I should fall dead in love with him at once. In fact, I think I've lost my heart already ; this valet has completely turned my head.)—Oh, I am very fond of dancing. Suppose we have a little dance. (They both dance as comic as possible.) [Exit, as

Enter LAURA and ROBERT, R. D.

ROBERT (amazed)—My valet seems to be enjoying himself !

LAURA—And my lady's maid also. I like to see people.

happy. I am very fond of dancing, and I feel as if I should enjoy one myself. (Both waltz about, as the Captain enters unobserved and secrets himself behind window curtain R.)

CAPTAIN (aside from curtain)—Oh, she is not the style of a woman I admire. I would prefer the lady's maid by all odds.) (Robert and Laura promenade around.)

ROBERT—I hope my dear lady is not fatigued. (Enter Mabel unobserved and secrets herself behind the window curtain L.)

LAURA—Oh, no! I could dance all night, I enjoy it so much. (Both seat themselves on the lounge.) I regret very much that my father is absent, and I'm afraid you will pass a very quiet time; I am such dull company.

ROBERT—Oh, not in the least, my dear lady, I am perfectly at home and feel very happy in your company. Are you fond of singing?

LAURA—I'm afraid my singing would bore you. I am somewhat out of practice. (Both come forward.)

ROBERT—Oh, no, dear lady! I should enjoy your singing. (She sings, or both can sing a duet or opera. After song Robert applaudes her.) Bravo! bravo! Your voice is splendid!

CAPTAIN (aside, from curtain)—Horrible! horrible! The worst I ever heard. I will go in search of the lady's maid.

[Exit in haste C. D. R.]

MABEL (from curtain)—Oh, I'm afraid I will be discovered; I had better retire. [Exit C. D. L.]

ROBERT—Your voice and singing reminds me of a lady friend I once knew in Paris some years ago. She was about to enter the Conservatory of Music, and I was leaving College. On my first introduction to you I was surprised at the resemblance you bear to her, and I was almost certain that you and her were the same person. Her name was Laura de Mar.

LAURA (confused, aside)—Why, that's my own name! Can it be possible I have met this gentleman before? (Looks at

him anxiously; aloud)—I have been in Paris, and received instruction in singing at the Conservatory.

ROBERT (anxious)—And did you know of a young lady by the name of Laura de Mar? Oh, I should love so much to meet her again!

LAURA—Yes, I am well acquainted with a lady of that name. We were very intimate; but I never heard her mention the name of Captain de Walden.

ROBERT (annoyed, aside)—Confound it! I have got myself in a mess, assuming this name of the Captain. I shall never be able to find Laura, and I'd give the world to know of her whereabouts. (I wish I hadn't undertaken this business of Captain de Walden's.) Perhaps she has forgotten the circumstance and how we became acquainted.

LAURA—No, I scarcely believe she would have forgotten such an event, or kept it a secret from me, as we were like one and the same person, and had no secrets. I have often heard her speak of a gentleman by the name of Robert Gordon.

ROBERT (elated)—Robert Gordon! Yes, that's my name! I am he!

LAURA (delighted)—What! You are Robert Gordon, my dear friend that I knew in Paris?

ROBERT (overjoyed)—Yes, I am Robert Gordon! And you are—

LAURA—Laura Le Mar! (Both embrace.)

ROBERT (in ecstasy)—Oh, my dear Laura! My own, my sweet Laura! (They kiss and hug each other very fondly.)

MABEL (appears at C. D. unobserved, and throws up her hands in astonishment. Aside)—Goodness gracious! They have fallen in love in dead earnest. Now, what will become of me? Oh, I shall faint if I stay here another moment.

[Exit quickly R. C. D., as Enter the CAPTAIN. He stops suddenly and stares in amazement at LAURA and ROBERT unobserved.

CAPTAIN—Bless my stars! What treachery is this? Rob-

ert kissing and hugging my intended wife ! Oh, I will be revenged ! revenged ! [Exits quickly C. D. L.

LAURA—Now, Robert, how is it you visit here under the name of Captain de Walden ?

ROBERT (confused, aside—Confound it ! In my delight of meeting with Laura, I have forgotten that I was Captain De Walden,) The fact is, my dear Laura, I—I left Paris on a flying visit to this place to see an old friend on business, and I met one of my college chums by the name of Captain De Walden, who was about to visit this house. Having arrived a day sooner than he expected, he requested me to call here, on my way to see my friend, and mention to these people that he had arrived, but would not be here till to-morrow ; and by some mistake I handed in the card of Captain De Walden instead of my own. I hope you will explain my unfortunate mistake, as I was not aware of my blunder until the present moment. Nevertheless, I am overjoyed with the circumstance that has been the means of my meeting with you in this unexpected manner.

LAURA (annoyed, aside—Oh, this is an unfortunate turn of affairs ! What shall I say to Mabel ? What a disappointment this will be for her. I must endeavor to break the news to her before it is too late, or something serious may occur.) Some one is coming this way, Robert ; let us retire to the library, and I will speak with you further in regard to this affair.

[Both Exit D. R., as Enter MABEL.

MABEL—Well, well ; things have come to a pretty pass ! Laura has evidently fallen in love with the Captain ; and how this ruse will end I am at a loss to know. I am afraid something serious will happen, and I will get myself into trouble. I have actually fallen in love with the Captain's valet, and my heart's all ablaze ! Here I am, surrounded with splendor and luxury, and yet I am miserable and wretched. I have found the man I love, and my position will not permit of me marrying with him. My father would disown me, and society

would scorn and shun me. Oh, I wonder what is keeping
Laura?

Enter LAURA.

LAURA—Oh, Mabel! I am so glad to find you!

MABEL—And I was just going in search of you! Now, come and tell me all about the Captain and what you think of him.

LAURA—Oh! I think he is horrible! The most ugly and uncouth person I ever saw! Oh, he is terrible! He is no more fit to be your husband than an orang-utang!

MABEL (aside—There is some treachery.) Oh, this is dreadful; and he is the man my father wishes me to marry!

LAURA—He's got an impediment in his speech! He's got a wart on his nose! And I think his hair is red but he dyes it—and worst of all, he's got a wooden arm! And he is the most horribly ill-bred man I ever saw!

MABEL—But, Laura, I heard him sing to you, and I thought his voice was splendid.

LAURA—That's just how I discovered he had an impediment in his speech—he put something in his mouth to keep his tongue straight.

MABEL—And I saw you hug and kiss him very affectionately!

LAURA—That's how I discovered he had a wooden arm.

MABEL—Goodness gracious! What will become of me? If I marry with this man I shall go mad! I am horrified at this description of Captain de Walden! And, worse than all, I am dead in love with his valet!

LAURA—You might better marry with his valet than sacrifice yourself to this horrid monster of a Captain De Walden!

MABEL—But you forget, my dear Laura; my position will not permit me to marry with a valet. My father would disown me! No, I must not deceive my father; my doom is sealed; there is no other alternative—I must marry with this Captain de Walden!

LAURA (horrified)—What! You don't mean to say you have

made up your mind to marry this horrible demon, Captain De Walden?

MABEL—I have, and when once I make up my mind nothing can change my purpose. I will marry him though he were as ugly as a rhinoceros! Yes, I am resolved. Come, lead me to him, and let me make myself known.

LAURA (in agony, aside—Oh, what shall I do? I will be ruined and disgraced if my deception is discovered.) Oh, Mabel! Mabel! let me beseech you not to commit this rash act! (Falls on her knees before her.) Your life would be most miserable and wretched were you to marry this man! Rather than see you make this sacrifice I would marry with him myself and free you from the misery and torture you would suffer. He has disclosed his love for me, and would marry me without a doubt; and then you would be free from this monster that your father has chosen for your husband!

MABEL (angry)—What! You are willing to marry this monster that you have described so terribly to me? You think he is not good enough for me, and yet would marry with him yourself. No! if he is good enough for you he is good enough for me; and if there is any sacrifice to be made I will make it myself. I will go and change my dress and present myself to him in proper person and meet my fate. (Going off.) Come; if you will not go with me I shall go alone.

LAURA—Oh, Mabel! Mabel! Consider the sacrifice you are about to make; do not commit this rash act; wait till the return of your father, and he may yet change his mind as to this man; and all will be well!

MABEL (resolute)—I have considered, and shall wait no longer. I am resolved; I am going to meet my fate!

[Exit D. C., up Right.]

LAURA (in despair)—Oh, mercy! What shall I do? I must go and find Robert and explain my terrible situation!

[Exit D. R., as

Enter CAPTAIN C. D.

CAPTAIN (looking off to the right and kissing his hand;

comes down center)—There she goes, the sunshine of my life ; the only woman I ever loved—and she's a lady's maid ! Oh, that some good fairy would use the power of her magic wand and change this woman's position to one equal to my own, if only for a day, and I would marry her at once ! Here am I living in splendor and luxury, and cannot marry the woman I love ! No ; my father would disinherit me, and society shun me, were I to marry with a lady's maid. Oh, this splendid misery will drive me mad ! Oh, where can Robert be ? Why does he stay away so long ?

Enter ROBERT C. D. in haste.

ROBERT (anxiously)—Oh, Captain ; I am so glad I found you !

CAPTAIN—And I was just wondering where you could be. Now come and tell me all about your interview with this lady, and what you think of her.

ROBERT—I think she is the most horrible creature I ever met in my life ! Oh, she's a perfect hyena, and no more suited to be your wife than a powder monkey is to be a general.

CAPTAIN (horrified)—Goodness gracious ! You terrify me ; you fill me with horror !

ROBERT—She's got false teeth ; she is padded from head to foot ; she's got false hair ; one of her eyes is glass, and I think she's got a cork leg.

CAPTAIN—Oh, Robert ! Robert ! If this be true, and I am obliged to marry with this woman, I shall lose my senses.

ROBERT—She wears a number nine shoe, and her hand is like a butter ladle. She will have her way in spite of everything ; she's a perfect tartar ; and if ever you cross her, you're a dead man, sure ; I don't think she'd stop short of murder. Her voice is like the squeak of a guinea hen, and when she laughs her ears flop like the wings of a sea-gull.

CAPTAIN (aside—There is something rotten in Denmark ; there is treachery here.) But, Robert, I heard her sing to you, and I thought her voice was splendid.

ROBERT—No, it's a falsetto ; it's the way her teeth are

constructed. And the whistling sound that comes through her nose !

CAPTAIN—And I saw you kissing her very fondly.

ROBERT—That's the way I discovered she had false teeth. My mustache became entangled with them, and I almost pulled them out of her mouth. She fainted away, and while bathing her face her wig fell off, and her head was as bare as a billiard ball.

CAPTAIN (terrified)—Oh, Robert ! Robert ! Say no more ! Your description of this woman will drive me to an insane asylum. And, what is more, I have fallen desperately in love with her lady's maid.

ROBERT—Then you had better marry with her lady's maid than sacrifice yourself to this horrible creature that your father has selected for your wife.

CAPTAIN (indignant)—But you forget, sir ; my position will not allow me to marry with a lady's maid ! No, there is but one alternative for me—I must marry with this horrible creature that you have so terribly described.

ROBERT (horrified)—What ! You don't mean to say you have resolved to marry with this hyena of a woman and I a life of misery and wretchedness ?

CAPTAIN—I am resolved ! Though she were as ugly as a porcupine I must marry with her, rather than disobey the wishes of my father ; and when once I make a resolution, there is nothing can change me ! Come, lead me to her and let me meet my fate.

ROBERT (terrified)—No ! no ! Captain, you must not sacrifice yourself to this woman ! Rather than see you marry with her and lead a life of torture and misery, I would marry with her myself and free you from this horrible creature ! Wait till the return of her father, and something may yet be done to prevent this terrible sacrifice. Do not commit this rash act ! She has expressed a love for me, and would marry me without a doubt, and then you would be free. Wait ! wait ! I beg of you ; consider the sacrifice you are about to make !

CAPTAIN—I have considered, and I shall wait no longer. I am determined to meet my fate, come what may. I will go and present myself in proper person. [Exit D. L.

ROBERT (in despair)—Stay! Stay! Captain! Oh, he has gone! What shall I do? I must away and find Laura, and consult with her. [Exit D. R., as

Enter MABEL C. D.

MABEL (dressed the same as Laura, and fanning herself rapidly)—I must try and be composed and meet this horrible Captain, and be as agreeable as the circumstances will permit. Yes, my doom is sealed. I will comply with the wishes of my father, and entertain him to the best of my ability. (Seats herself on the lounge) as

Enter ROBERT.

ROBERT (goes to her)—Oh, Laura; I am so glad I found you! I have something I wish to disclose to you at once.

MABEL (aside)—He takes me for Laura! She has personated me and used her own name. I will keep up the ruse; I may learn something to my advantage.

ROBERT (falls on his knees before her)—Oh, Laura, say that you will be mine, and let us fly from this place; I can remain no longer. I must return to Paris at once!

MABEL—But why this sudden departure? Why do you leave this place so soon? (Laura appears at C. D.)

ROBERT—I love but you, and only you! Say that you will be mine and fly with me, and I will explain all!

LAURA (throws up her hands in astonishment)—Oh, mercy! What do I see? What do I hear? Yes; 'tis Robert! and at the feet of Mabel, declaring his love for her! Oh, this is terrible! (Puts her hand to head in despair.) I shall go mad! mad! [Exit up C. D.

MABEL (looks off)—Some one is coming this way. Let us retire to the library. [Both Exit C. D. Left, as

Enter LAURA, looking after them; comes forward.

LAURA—There they go, arm in arm, like old lovers. Oh, my heart will break! This man swore his love for me; and

now he has deceived me ! Oh, I must leave this place at once, I can remain no longer. (Goes to C. D., looks off, and quickly returns.) Some one is coming this way, and it is he ! (Seats herself on lounge.) I shall never speak to him again.

Enter CAPTAIN in full uniform, same as ROBERT.

CAPTAIN (comes forward putting on gloves)—I have thrown off my disguise, and I will now appear in proper person and make myself known to this lady and ask her forgiveness. (Discovers Laura.) Ah, there is the lady herself ; I wasn't aware of her presence. Now I will meet my fate. (Goes to her.) My dear lady, circumstances have occurred that may seem strange and mysterious to you, but I have come to offer you an apology and to ask your forgiveness.

LAURA—Sir, I don't wish to listen to you any further. I have seen enough to convince me that you are a base deceiver.

CAPTAIN (falls on his knees before her)—Oh, no, my dear lady ! I beg you to listen to me ! Do not turn away from me ; hear what I have to say, I beseech you ! (Robert appears at C. D., and stands amazed.)

ROBERT—What do I see ? No ! Yes ! It is she, Laura ! Listening to the appeals of love from the Captain, who is at her feet imploring her to hear him ! Puts hands to his head.) Oh, this treachery will drive me mad ! Oh, woman, woman ! thy name is frailty ! [Exits up R. C. D.

LAURA (arising and angry)—No, sir. I wish you to leave me at once. I have discovered you do not love me, and I will listen to you no further. [Exit hurriedly C. D. L.

CAPTAIN (dismayed)—She's gone, without a word of explanation from me ! I see it all ! This Robert has deceived me ; he has misrepresented me to serve his own purpose. I will be revenged ! revenged ! (Strides up and down in a rage) as

Enter MABEL C. D., in haste, fanning herself rapidly; walks up and down quickly, in opposite direction to the CAPTAIN.

MABEL—Oh, I am most miserable and wretched—Laura has deceived me ; I shall never speak to her again ! I hate

her? I could tear her eyes out! Yes, I will be revenged!
revenged?

CAPTAIN (discovers her; aside—Goodness gracious! She has returned, and in a terrible passion. Oh, I must speak to her at all hazards.)

MABEL (discovers Captain)—Ah, here is the Captain.

CAPTAIN (goes to her)—My dear lady, I hope you will listen to the explanation I am about to offer. (Hesitates and looks anxiously at her.)

MABEL (astonished; aside—Mercy! that voice is familiar to me! This is not the person that addressed me before!) My dear sir—(hesitates and looks anxiously at him.)

CAPTAIN (astonished)—I beg pardon, my dear lady. I hope you will excuse my confusion, but I am under the impression that I have seen your face before, and I can't recall for the moment just when or where it was.

MABEL—And I am under the same impression as to you. I beg pardon, I had quite forgotten—I have a message to send. Is your valet convenient?

CAPTAIN (confused; aside—Goodness gracious! I had forgotten all about that I had a valet! Confound it, what shall I say?) I beg pardon, madam, I—I think he is with your lady's maid.

MABEL (surprised)—My lady's maid! (Aside and annoyed—Mercy! I had forgotten all about my being a lady's maid! But he is not the Captain I saw this morning. Oh, if I could only see his valet.) Captain, perhaps your valet may be in the library.

CAPTAIN—I will go and see, my dear lady.

MABEL—And I will accompany you. (Aside). I must see his valet. (Both going off.)

CAPTAIN (aside)—I must see her lady's maid.

[Both Exit C. D. R., as

Enter LAURA hurriedly, followed by ROBERT; both excited.

ROBERT (pleading)—Oh, Laura! Laura! Why do you treat me so? What have I done to cause this indifference?

LAURA (indignant)—Enough, sir; you have basely deceived me! I saw you at the feet of my friend Mabel, and heard you vow your love for her.

ROBERT (amazed)—You saw me at the feet of your friend Mabel? I know of no such person! But may be you can inform me why you listened to the appeals of love from Captain De Walden, who was kneeling at your feet a short time ago!

LAURA (surprised, aloud)—Captain De Walden! I know of no person of that name!

Enter CAPTAIN and MABEL C. D.

CAPTAIN—I am here, at your service.

LAURA (amazed)—Mabel!

MABEL—Yes, Laura, this is Captain De Walden—that horrible monster, with a wart on his nose, and a wooden arm! (Laughs aloud.) Ha! ha! ha! Splendid joke! Ha! ha! ha!

CAPTAIN—Robert, this is that horrid creature that has false teeth, wears a wig, and has a voice like the squeak of a guinea hen! Ha! ha! ha! Splendid joke! Ha! ha! ha! But I forgive you, my boy; for I feel so happy I could forgive a world of misdemeanors.

MABEL (goes to Laura)—And I freely forgive you, my dear Laura, and love you more than ever.

CAPTAIN (to Mabel)—And now, my dear Mabel, it only remains for you to consent to be my wife, and I will be the happiest man alive.

MABEL—Well if that will make you happy—I am yours. (Both embrace.)

ROBERT (to Laura)—And now, my dear Laura, it only remains for you to consent to be my wife, and I will be the happiest man alive.

LAURA—Well, if that will make you happy—I am yours. (Both embrace.)

MABEL—And now let us join in a merry dance, and then to dinner.

CAPTAIN—And while we enjoy our feast we won't forget the cause of our "Splendid Misery." (All dance off.)

CURTAIN.

DIME SONG BOOKS.

1. Jenny Hughes' Dolly Varden.
2. Squeeze Me, Joe.
3. Johnny Wild's Dat Settles Dat.
4. Jennie Engle's Grand Parade.
5. Sheridan & Mack's Character.
6. Harrigan & Hart's Mulchay Twins.
7. Johnny Roach's Greatest.
8. Kiss Behind the Door.
9. Delehanty & Hengler's Songs, &c.
10. Miles Morris' Irish Gems.
11. Foy Sisters Songster.
12. McKee & Rogers' Rebecca Jane.
13. Jennie Engle's Serio Comic.
14. The Fielding's Songster.
15. Wayne & Lovelly's Acrobatic.
16. Johnny Roach's Emerald.
17. I want to go Home to Mama.
18. Luke Schooler's Shine on.
19. Billy Cotton's Old Black Joe.
20. Delehanty & Hengler's Love, &c.
21. Billie & Maggie Ray's Old Log Cabin.
22. McAndrew's Water Melon Man.
23. Johnny Roach's Its Funny when you Feel, &c.
24. Harrigan & Hart's Mulligan Guards.
25. Walters and Morton's My Gal.
26. Billy Carter's Great Banjo Solo.
27. Johnson & Power's Little Moke.
28. Jennie Engle's Favorite Songs.
29. Shoot the Hat.
30. Freeman Sisters' On Board the Mary Jane.
31. Jennie Hughes' I Should Like To.
32. Woman's Temperance.
33. Gus Williams' Belle of the Ball.
34. The Fielding's Tipperary Couple.
35. Harrigan & Hart's Tom Collins.
36. Wild & Bradley's Big Fat Nance.
37. Larry Toohey's Bouncing Dutchman.
38. Harrigan & Hart's Regular Army.
39. Ain't you Awful.
40. Harrigan & Hart's Patrick's Day Parade.
41. Arnold Brothers' Jig, Song and Dance.
42. Diamond & Ryan's Irish Hod Carriers.
43. Harrigan & Hart's Mulligan Guards (2d An. Prde)
44. Sandford & Wilson's Musical Mokes.
45. Harrigan & Hart's Skidmore Guards.
46. Billy Courtwright's Flewy, Flewy, Flewy Singstr.
47. Harper & Stansill's One Legged Songster.
48. Fielding's Irish Domestic Songster.
49. Tony Pastor's Traveling Songster.
50. Jenny Morgan's Kiss Songster.
51. Foy Sisters Mr. and Mrs. Thompson.
52. Wild & Bradley Theatre Comique.
53. Alice Harrison's Olympic.
54. Billy Carter's Champion Banjo.
55. Cool Burgess' Nicodemus Johnson.
56. Alice Bennett's Laughing Eyes.
57. Richmond Sister's Challenge Song and Dance.
58. Harrigan & Hart's Day we Celebrate.
59. Dr. J. L. Tháver's Laugh and Grow Fat, &c.
60. Sheridan & Mack's Knocking on de Outside, &c.
61. Harrigan & Hart's Gallant 69th.
62. T. M. Hengler's Fun in the Kitchen.
63. Del-hanty & Cummings' Sunset in the South.
64. Rollin Howard's Dramatic.
65. C. L. Davis' Dutch Song and Dance.
66. Johnson & Bruno's Mania Monia Nigs.
67. Sam Devere's Caricature Song.
68. Miles Morris' Roger O'Malley.
69. Harrigan & Hart's Blue and Gray.
70. Harper & Stansill's Sweet June Rose.
71. Ada Richmond's Wait Till Moonlight Falls, &c.
72. Pat Rooney's O'Reilly You're N. G.
73. La Verd Sisters Sailing on the Lake.
74. Ella Wesner's King of Trumps.
75. T. M. Hengler's Sweet Aleen.
76. Harrigan & Hart's Hildebrand Montrose.
77. Jolly Nash's Our Boys.
78. Tierney & Cronin's Ashante Recruits.
79. Big Four, Lester, Allen, Smith & Waldron.
80. The Murray's Drops of Blarney.
81. Western & Walling's Just as You See us Now.
82. Am. Team, Wayne, Lovely, Cotton & Birdie.
83. Jakey Woolfingtonstein.
84. Larry Toohey's Turn Down Your Collar.
85. Bennett & Kernal's Across the Raging Waters.
86. Foster & Dudley's Irish Clog, Song and Dance.
87. The Brahams' Vocal Characte.
88. Harry Montague's Popular So.
89. The Fielding's New York.
90. Winnett's Love in Broken Ge.
91. Sam Martin's One Leg Soldier.
92. Jennie Lindsay's Style of the
93. Virginia Stickney's Parisian W.
94. Harrigan & Hart's Theatre Co.
95. Sam Devere's Combination.
96. J. O'Neill's Candidate for Al.
97. Frank Lewis' Hurrah for the I.
98. Will You Love Me When I'm
99. John Reilly's The Way I Ma
100. Billy Pastor's Star Travelling.
101. H. Osborne's & F. Wentworth
102. Johnson & Bruno's Just from
103. Scanlon & Cronin's Irishmen
104. Foy Sisters' Branigan Band.
105. Harrigan & Hart's S. O. T.
106. Niles & Evans' Two Love Le
107. Arnold Brothers' Triple Clog.
108. Kirk & Drew's Mischievous C.
109. Sam Devere's A Lean Banana.
110. Harry Braham's Silly Bill and Father.
111. Scanlon & Cronin's Poor, but a Gentleman Still.
112. Harrigan & Hart's Slavery Days.
113. Dick Sands' Irish Character.
114. Bryant & Williams' Slender Nigs.
115. Lizzie Braham's Sweet Bye and Bye.
116. Delehanty & Hengler's Re-united Serenaders.
117. Murray's Old and Young.
118. Frank Lewis' Motto Songster.
119. Harrigan & Hart's Gliding Down the Stream.
120. Harrigan & Hart, Walking for dat Cake.
121. Jeppie and Fanny Delano's Love at First Sight.
122. Clara Moore's Character and Descriptive.
123. Will Morton's Behind the Scenes.
124. Kelly & Ryan's Bards of Tara.
125. Bran New Big Four.
126. Cool Burgess Don't Get Weary.
127. Scanlon & Cronin, Dundreary O'Donnell.
128. James D. Roome's Fashionable Beats
129. Lydia Thompson's On the Strict Q. T.
130. The Peasleys' O'Rielley's Raffle.
131. Girard Brothers' Dancing in the Sunlight.
132. Harrigan & Hart's Sunday Night when, &c.
133. Chas. Konollman's New York Variety.
134. Sheehan & Jones' Man of Education.
135. Chas. Diamond's Milanese Minstrels.
136. The Murdoch's Don't You Do It.
137. Will, H. Trimble's Specialty.
138. The Bennett's Kitchen Domestic.
139. F. Lewis' Remember you have Children, &c.
140. Larry Toohey's Mutton Pie.
141. Harry Woodson's Gwine Back to Dixie.
142. Harrigan & Hart's Front Stoop.
143. The McKee's Dancing in the Barn.
144. Worden & Mack's Little Ruby
145. Ben Dodge's Don't take any Notice.
146. Collyer & Kelly's Buck Gont.
147. Delehanty & Hengler's Strawberries and Cream.
148. Fields & Hoey Musical Songster.
149. Whoa Emma
150. Harry Montague's At it Again.
151. Harry Bennett's Charley Flynn.
152. Tim Roger's Ain't he a Baby.
153. Harrigan & Hart's Isle de Blackwell.
154. Bobby Newcomb's Sweet Forget me Not.
155. H. Osborne & F. Wentworth's Irish Comedian.
156. Duncan Sisters' Down in the Meadows.
157. Andy and Annie Hughes Happy Irish Couple.
158. Robert McKay's Since der Band was Broken up.
159. Will H. Morton's America's Comique.
160. J. K. Enmet's Lullaby.
161. Pat Rooney's Day I Played Base Ball
162. Scanlon & Sommers' Hap. Lit. Chil. from the So.
163. Queen & West's Popular Songster.
164. Bennett's Combination.
165. Pat Rooney's Day I Walked O'Leary.
166. Barlow Brothers' Calin Floor
167. Harrigan & Hart's Such an Education, &c.
168. Delehanty & Hengler's Laugh and Be Merry.
169. Jennie Hughes' Cash, Cash Songster.
170. Goss & Fox Jubilee Songster.
171. Flora Moore's Just Over Songster.
172. Foley & Sherry's Big Pound Cake Songster

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